



Constant(s) for Saint-Léonard – Octobre 2016

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at Église baptiste évangélique de Saint-Léonard : www.eglisesaintleonard.com



Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, prayer partners and friends,

We give thanks to God for your faith and your involvement in God's mission field at home and with us here in St-Leonard.

New venue found and confirmed!

Big news: join us in giving thanks to God for providing a larger venue for us! As we had previously mentioned in August, we discovered that the *Leonardo da Vinci Centre* (8370 Lacordaire Blvd.) had available premises. It is official now: we will be entering there and for the long term, Lord willing. Our first worship service there is coming very soon: **Sunday, November 13, 2016!** Thank you for your prayers! And glory be to God! Feel free to come visit us on our inauguration day to join us in giving thanks to God!



The Leonardo da Vinci Centre,
in the heart of St-Leonard

Many outstanding advantages

Let me quickly share with you in how many ways this new location is a true blessing!



The Piccolo Teatro (144 seats)

1. *The theatre hall:* It's a superb auditorium that contains 144 seats, twice the amount of our current location where it's hard to place more than 65 chairs within feeling a little tight. It must be the nicest hall for our needs in the entire neighbourhood, especially compared to the waiting room where we were meeting! There will also be an extra room for a children's class and activities.
2. *Office:* There is a large office room that became available in the same building and that we are now renting. I will be able to set up my office there and it will be useful for committee meetings and for storing our equipment (sound system, children's material, etc.).
3. *Central location:* The Leonardo da Vinci Centre is at the heart of St-Leonard, geographically, socially and politically. It is surrounded by city hall, the library, the French high school and many major sports facilities. The Centre itself is very well known in St-Leonard and a hotspot for culture (shows, concerts) as well as community and sports activities. What better place to meet people and to invite them to?
4. *Zoning:* The Centre even has the appropriate zoning for « Worship centre » (which we didn't have at the medical clinic).

5. *Visibility:* We won't have to be shy about displaying our colours anymore. The offices and church meetings will be posted on the Centre's billboards.
6. *Parking:* There must be over 200 parking spots behind the Leonardo Centre for all the sports and community facilities that are around. We should never run out of parking or be a hindrance for neighbours.
7. *Price:* We were not expecting this: our monthly rent will be **the same** as what we're paying at the medical clinic! (It will even be a little under!) For such a venue with the office, it's almost miraculous!

Financial challenge

Even though the long term costs should be affordable, we have an immediate financial challenge. In order to make sure we would get the Leonardo da Vinci Centre's premises, it became necessary for us to book them in a short notice's time. Unfortunately, we signed a lease that runs until the end of April 2017 with the medical clinic and which we must honour. Our landlord cannot free us unless he finds another tenant to replace us. We also want to leave a good memory of our presence and to be a good testimony in business.

Despite this challenge, relocating at such a great venue was an opportunity we couldn't miss. With the encouragement of our mother-church, our board and our church decided that it would be most visionary and wise to trust God and to go forward with the moving project. Meeting at the Leonardo da Vinci Centre presents a list of incredible long term advantages that would have been a shame to miss.

Nevertheless, we will have to pay two leases at once for 6 months' time and it will cost us an extra \$8,000 to **\$15,000** maximum. We are exploring procedures to reduce that amount as much as possible, but also want to prepare for any possible outcome.

Looking for partners for this one-time amount

As a church, we committed ourselves to give an extra \$2,000 to make up for this substantial amount. It's most probable that our gifts will exceed this objective.

We are also looking for partners that can help us fill this one-time amount. If God lays on your heart to support us financially in this special moving project, your assistance will prove to be most helpful.

If you are interested or would like more information, feel free to contact me, Benoit Constant (constantben211@hotmail.com; 514-835-3371) or Dominique Guichard, church elder and representative of our mother-church (domanneguichard@yahoo.ca; 514-266-7098).

If God, in his grace, were to provide funds beyond our moving costs, we will put aside the extra amount in two funds: (1) our "2nd worker" fund to provide for the 1 day per week salary of my new colleague-pastor Ovidiu Gardos; (2) an "Evangelism" fund for future special projects.

Thank you for your prayers and for your interest in God's work in our midst in Saint-Leonard!
May God's grace and peace be poured out unto you.

Benoit and Lysianne Constant

